Gandhi at India Gate, Delhi is pending before Government for over a decade;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in installation of the statue; and

(c) by when the statue is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The installation of Gandhiji's statue at India Gate, a premier National Memorial, required consideration of a number of important matters like the selection of an eminent sculptor, the design and size of the statue etc. The sculptor engaged to prepare the original clay/Plaster Cast model also took a long time in conceptualising this work of Creative Art. The Plaster Cast model was completed in May, 1988. The bronze casting work has since been given to a professional caster. It is expected that the bronze statue will be available for installation by the end of this year.

Allotment of Rice to Maharashtra

1822. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have written to Central Government about the difficult situation they are facing due to the curtailment of allocation of rice to the State; and

(b) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, As a result of a review of allocations of various States/Union Territories undertaken in the light of the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, the rice quota of most States including Maharashtra, has been reduced by 20% from February, 1989.

The allocations of foodgrains from the Central Pool are only supplemental to die open market availability and are made on month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors. In view of the excellent agricultural production in the country during 1988-89, there should be no overall shortage in relation to the requirements of the State.

1823. [Transferred to 16th March, 1989]

Supply of fertilizer in Madhya Pradesh

1824. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made in Madhya Pradesh to aurgment the fertiliser consumption in the State to increase the agricultural production;

(b) if so, what was the total distribution of fertilizers made during the Rabi season;

(c) to what extent the fertilizers were provided to the State Government by the Union Government; and

(d) what was the actual need and to what extent fertilizer have been supplied and to what extent the supply of fertilizers have helped in improving the Rabi crop in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) -Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The following table gives the assessed requirement of fertilisers for Madhya Pradesh, quantity made available

and consumption during Rabi 1988-89 season:

	(1000 tonnes N+P+K)
(i) Assessed requirement for Rabi 1988-89 (lst Oct., 88 to 31st March, 1989)	340.40
(ii) Fertiliser made available from 1-10-88 to 31-12-88.	326.81
(iii) Consumption from lst Oct. to 31st December.. 1988.	269.36

There were no shortage of fertiliser in the State for Rabi crops.

It is expected that during current Rabi, production is likely to register significant increase over that of the previous Rabi.

Wastage of land due to soil erosion etc.

1825. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement of Mr. Karaosman Golu, Vice-President for Asia region of the World Bank dated the 18th February, 1989 which had appeared in the Times of India dated the 19th February, 1989 according to which soil erosion, salutation, water logging and grazing had degraded large areas with the result that 45 per cent of the land was considered wasteland; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item referred to in the question.

(b) Keeping in view the problems of soil erosion and land degradation including water-logging, .salinity, alkanity etc., Government have been launching various soil conservation and watershed managment programmes, important development programmes that are currently under implementation to tackle the problem of erosion and degradation are—

(1) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects.

(2) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers.

(3) National Watershed Development Programme in Rainfed Areas.

(4) World Bank supported—

(i) Pilot Project of Watershed Development in Rainfed Areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(ii) Himalayan Watershed Management in Uttar Pradesh.

(5) European Economic Community (EEC) supported '—

(i) Integrated Watershed Management in the Ravinous Areas of Chambal and Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh

(ii) Integrated Watershed Management Project in Gujarat.

(6) Reclamation of Ravinous Areas in Dacoity Prone districts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(7) Cnntrol of Shifting Cultivation.